



## WELCOME SPRING!



April marks the beginning of spring, and also the renewal of many of our programs. Stay tuned for updated program guidelines and information on the Beaver Control Program, Rat Control Program, and Invasive Plant Control Program later this month. All program information will be available at [sarm.ca](http://sarm.ca).

Despite covid restrictions continuing, the PHOs are still available to meet with you or answer any questions that may arise in your RM or First Nation Band (FNB) by telephone, video conference, email or text. We remain committed to assisting the RMs and FNBs in our respective Divisions even though we may not be able to meet with you in person. Plant Health Officers are available to assist with invasive weed management and weeds designated under *The*

*Weed Control Act*, and agricultural pests designated under *The Pest Control Act*, as well as program support for the Invasive Plant Control Program, Rat Control Program, Beaver Control Program and clubroot. We can assist with creating or updating weed management plans, weed identification, providing program information, developing information for ratepayer newsletters, assisting with clubroot bylaw information and templates, providing support to Weed Inspectors and Pest Control Officers, and connecting you with resources available through the Ministry of Agriculture and SARM.

With many new council members being elected and some changing faces of administrators, it is a great idea to connect with your PHO to discuss any assistance that we can provide or questions that you may have. Do not hesitate to reach out to us anytime...we are here and happy to help!

### PHO-LED WEBINARS

Early in the year, we partnered with Ministry of Agriculture to host a series of webinars for Pest Control Officers and a series of webinars for Weed Inspectors and Land Managers. These webinars were recorded and will be available for viewing on the SARM website.

Pest Control Officer webinars - <https://sarm.ca/programs/cap-rcp> (not yet posted as of April 27, 2021)

Weed Inspector webinars - <https://sarm.ca/programs/cap-ipc>

# IMAPINVASIVES EMAIL ALERTS

iMapInvasives is an online, GIS based database that can assist with protecting our natural resources from the threat of invasive species. This database can be accessed by anyone, and it is a great resource for Weed Inspectors and Land Managers, as well as administrators and council or band members to stay current on invasive species found in your RM or First Nation land. Anyone can sign up for an account on iMapInvasives by visiting <https://www.imapinvasives.org/> and clicking on the “Log In” button. From there, you can quickly and easily set up an account. Once you have an account, you can record observations of invasive species either using the desktop version through your internet browser or the app on your mobile device. You can also sign up for email alerts for invasive species that are recorded in your area, even by RM, using the desktop version of this database program. The PHOs have created an information sheet to take you step-by-step through the process of signing up for email alerts and it is available [here](#). In addition, the PHOs delivered a webinar presentation on how to use the iMapInvasives app on your smartphone. A copy of the [recorded webinar](#) and [presentation](#) are also available on the [SARM website](#).

## DID YOU KNOW? ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS

Did you know that the appointments for Weed Inspectors and Pest Control Officers expire annually on December 31? This means that the appointments need to be made and sent in every year, even if the details of the appointment have not changed. This is important to ensure that your appointed officials have the legal authority to carry out their role in your RM. Appointment letters are to be sent to the Ministry of Agriculture, and you can send them by email to [crops@gov.sk.ca](mailto:crops@gov.sk.ca). This includes the appointment of the Plant Health Officers as Pest Control Officers for Clubroot to ensure that we are able to collect samples for the provincial clubroot survey, as well as assist your RM with any clubroot related concerns or complaints.

## SAVE THE DATES

### LEAFY SPURGE BEETLE COLLECTION DAYS

Are tentatively scheduled for July 5 to 9, 2021. More information to come soon!



## PEST SURVEY MONITORING BY MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

The PHOs work with the Ministry of Agriculture to collect field data over the course of the growing season, including insect and disease monitoring in crops. In order for these surveys to continue, the Ministry of Agriculture is looking for producers to provide permission to allow access to their farmland. You can find more information and signup at <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/business/agriculture-natural-resources-and-industry/agribusiness-farmers-and-ranchers/programs-and-services/crops-programs/pest-monitoring>, or contact your local PHO for more information.

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Please contact your Division PHO for more information, to answer any questions, or suggest content for future newsletters.

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